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ANDEAN PACT LEADERS ISSUE JOINT DECLARATION

PA091624Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0404 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Joint declaration signed at San Carlos Palace in Bogota, Colombia on 8 August 1978 by Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, Bolivian President Juan Pereda Asbun, Ecuadorean Supreme Council of Government President Alfredo Poveda Burbano, Peruvian Prime Minister Oscar Molina Palochia and Panamanian Chief of Government Omar Torrijos]

[Text] The presidents of Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia and Ecuador and the prime minister and personal representative of the Peruvian president have met in the city of Bogota on the occasion of the inauguration of the new constitutional president of Colombia. The Panamanian chief of government, Gen Omar Torrijos, attended as observer.

The presidents and the prime minister have taken advantage of this opportunity to examine the current situation of our countries within the international and Latin American context, the advances of the Andean integration process since the September 1977 meeting, and plans for the future. As a result of our talks we have agreed to sign the following declaration:

We express our concern over the uncertainty that characterizes the international economic situation and the fact that the commitment assumed by all countries of the world for the establishment of a new international economic order has still not been implemented, and even shows clear signs of regression as evidenced in the recent industrialized countries' summit meeting in Bonn, Germany. Because of this, we issue an appeal for each of the proper organizations and forums to show a significant and prompt advance in the fulfillment of the commitments to create a new order in economic relations, the only means of constructing a truly just and solidary international community and the only guarantee for the achievement of a lasting and stable social and political peace.

Within the current international economic situation, greater coordination and solidarity among the Latin American countries is essential for strengthening the power of jointly negotiating their interests before the industrialized world, particularly regarding the achievement of adequate prices for their basic and manufactured products. But such solidarity is only obtained and is more stable to the extent that the Latin American countries, through the process of integration, make their economies complementary, which will undoubtedly enable them to reach greater political sovereignty and economic autonomy. From this comes the importance we attach to the consolidation of the subregional Andean group viewed within the context of Latin America and the context of the developing countries in general.

The present validity of the objectives whose attainment inspired the countries to create this integrational process cannot be denied. The hope to achieve a balanced and harmonious development of the member countries, the goal of achieving speedier economic growth which will make possible the effective participation of these countries in the process of Latin American integration, and the equitable distribution of the benefits derived from integration are, even today, achievements which the countries committed under the Cartagena accord expect to see crowned as the fruit of their joint efforts.

In view of the foregoing, convinced of the importance of the existence of the Andean group, and conscious of the difficulties inherent in every integration process, we feel that it is fundamental to reiterate the willingness of all heads of state of the member countries and, above all, the firm determination of the governments to help in the search for solutions to the problems currently affecting this process.

Within this positive spirit, we have reached the conclusion that the advances achieved in the progress of Andean integration show that there is an urgent need to have available a jurisdictional organ to exercise control over the legality of the regulations emanating from the commission and the board to settle controversies concerning compliance with the obligations of the member countries and to interpret the principles comprising the juridical structure of the accord. We ask the proper national authorities and the Cartagena accord commission to begin a review of this matter in the shortest possible time. This review must conclude next year with the signing of the treaty for the creation of the Andean court of justice.

We also feel that it is indispensable to update the sectorial development programs of the metalmechanic and petrochemical industries before the end of the year. Venezuela has expressed its willingness to join the sectorial program of the metalmechanic industry as soon as possible within the aforementioned period. For this purpose, it is hereby recommended that during its meeting scheduled for 14 August in Lima the commission of the accord extend until the end of this year the terms for the beginning of production based on the allocations of the sectorial metalmechanic program and proceed to close the regular session currently underway.

With the intention of eliminating factors of uncertainty from the development of the agreement, we commit ourselves to undertake maximum efforts so that the Lima and Arequipa protocols will become effective before the end of this year and to update the fulfillment of the commitments derived from the program for general liberation from the minimum common external tariff and the already approved sectorial programs by expediting the internal work in each country so the delay in procedures will not affect the commitments reached.

We voice our firm interest in and concern over the special situation of the countries of relatively lower development, notably Bolivia, and we reiterate our desire to actively participate in the common efforts intended to promote its rapid development. We feel the need for both the common organizations and the internal administrative structures to focus positively on the reciprocal problems and reach shared, adequate and rapid positions to promote attitudes of mutual trust and strengthen the credibility of the process and its actions.

We believe that great attention should be paid to the Andean development corporation so this institution can adequately play its role in the process of Andean integration. We stress the need to adopt measures intended to facilitate international road transportation and the implementation of joint actions in the areas of border integration to permit great trade exchange among our countries.

Aware of the importance of the automotive program within the Andean integration process in accelerating the joint development of the Cartagena agreement member countries, which confirms the full viability of industrial development programming as a fundamental mechanism of the agreement, we have decided to establish coordinated actions in the implementation of the automotive program.

We have agreed to call a meeting of the presidents of the Andean countries on 26 May 1979 in the city of Cartagena to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the signing of the agreement which bears its name. On that occasion we will make an overall evaluation of the course of the agreement and especially of the development of the commitments contained in this statement. Finally, we voice the conviction that the Andean integration process will be strengthened in the area of the peoples' desire for advancement to the extent that it is increasingly based on respect for the basic rights of the individual and a broad system of social participation.

SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON UNOFFICIAL VISIT

FY100206Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0135 GMT 10 Aug 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Aug--South African Foreign Minister Roelof F. Botha is in the capital on an unofficial visit. Diplomatic sources report that the high-ranking South African official wants to go on a brief tour of the interior.

JUNTA ANNOUNCES ROTATION OF PRESIDENT, SECRETARIAT

FY091837Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1433 GMT 9 Aug 78 FY

[Communique released by the military junta in Buenos Aires on 9 August 1978]

[Text] The military junta, continuing with the necessary adjustments to expedite its internal organization, will implement some measures aimed at improving its operation. One of the measures, which will be temporary until a final decision is made, is that the presidency of the military junta will be held on rotation exclusively for administrative and protocol purposes. The commander of the army, Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola, will be president during the August-September period. Consequently, the military junta secretariat, which until now rotated every month, will now rotate every 2 months to coincide with the presidency of the junta.

RIGHTS GROUPS SEND LETTER TO INTERIOR MINISTER

FY091355Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2307 GMT 8 Aug 78 FY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 8 Aug--The Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, the Ecumenical Movement for Human Rights and the League for the Rights of Men have sent a letter to the interior minister, Gen Albano Harguindeguy, indicating that the whereabouts are still not known of 14 persons the ministry reported on 2 June "are no longer under arrest and have been released" or "are in their homes" or facing trial.

The organizations also sent the ministry "a list of 500 new cases of missing persons which must be added to the 2,511 reported on 17 May this year." The persons who have disappeared are part of the list of 87 which the ministry included by mistake in the list released last May.

The letter requests that Minister Harguindeguy grant a meeting to the representatives who signed the letter "in order to put at the disposal of the ministry any elements needed to make a judgment or any evidence we may have or know about."

BRIEFS

BOMB EXPLOSION--Buenos Aires, 8 Aug--A bomb exploded in front of the house of the president of General Motors blowing up the front gate. There were no personal injuries. The explosion took place just after 2130. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0245 GMT 9 Aug 78 FY]

DELEGATION TO PRC--Resistencia, Chaco--The work group made up of the whole agrarian cooperative movement in this province has studied with Local Economy Minister Pablo Benedit details of preparations for a new trade mission which will leave for the PRC in September. The objective of this mission will be to implement all aspects of the sale of 25,000 tons of cotton fiber during the period 1979-81 agreed upon during the visit to Peking of Economy Minister Alfredo Martinez de Hoz. [Text] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 9 Aug 78 FY]

SILES ZUAZO RESPONDS TO PEREDA, PRESSES FOR ELECTIONS

FOBIS33AY La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 8 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Only 45 hours after President Juan Pereda delivered a message to the nation announcing his decision to democratize the country in 48 months, 2 years, [as heard] the opposing political alliance called the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP] replied to the points included in his message.

Hernan Siles Zuazo, former Bolivian president and presidential candidate in the recent annulled elections, was the first political leader to reply to General Pereda's message, during a press conference held at 1700 this afternoon.

Surrounded by other FUDP leaders, Siles Zuazo reasserted the need for an immediate call for elections within the time suggested by the now-defunct National Electoral Court, in other words, six months. He said that all Bolivians must begin the year 1979 with a legitimate government, capable of facing in freedom, democracy and with complete popular support the risky consequences of the arms race among our neighboring countries on the Pacific.

Siles stated that the argument that elections would distract national attention and divide Bolivians is neither serious nor reliable. The real and serious issue is the persistence of an illegitimate regime which is responsible for the present division between majority classes and military-management sectors favored by the dictatorship, he added.

He maintained that this decision (?conspires) against national unity at a time when the country must face the urgencies represented by the loss of the seacoast.

In his extensive statement delivered to the press, Siles Zuazo reasserted that elections can be held no later than 6 months from now. He said that it was proved that in a similar period there was even time to orchestrate fraud. The adjustments of the electoral law, he added, are few and easy to implement, and they can be resolved in a few days. Later, after a number of remarks on the present political situation and [words indistinct] of reply to the armed forces, Siles Zuazo maintained that General Pereda's proposal to call for elections in 1980 does not agree with the unanimous pronouncement of union, professional, political and university figures. He said that the only explanation is fear of facing the judgment of Bolivian history and the people through free and impartial elections.

Siles indicated: Two more years of dictatorship would prolong the system of bloody repression in peasant sectors, as is happening now in La Paz Province, in the mines and in the (?cities), plus the destructive expansion of the corruption institutionalized by the regime. The FUDP leader then stated that the country has reached the limit of social tolerance and that in view of the risk of a popular outburst of unpredictable consequences, the FUDP proposes a peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy, in agreement with the following basic points, aimed at strengthening Bolivia's existence as a sovereign nation.

This first reply to the presidential message contains eight points:

1. The establishment of a government representing the sovereign will of the Bolivian people by late 1978.

2. An immediate call for general elections, in conformity with the recommendations of the National Electoral Court.

3. Annulment of the state of siege.

4. Immediate establishment of an impartial electoral power, democratically structured, to preside over the electoral process.

5. An armed forces commitment to watch over clean elections, respecting the results in full acceptance of the constitution.

6. A commitment by the government not to sponsor any official nomination.

7. Free access of all political groups to social communication media.

8. A commitment by the democratic opposition to act in accordance with the rights, duties and guarantees provided for in the Bolivian Constitution.

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS, CURFEW LIFTED IN LA PAZ

PY100216Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] We repeat our report released in our noon cast today. Time limitations on vehicular traffic, pedestrians and activities of public entertainment centers, such as night clubs, restaurants, cafes and others, have been lifted. The prefecture of [La Paz] Department released a new decree suspending time limitations and reiterating the other articles established in the previous decree issued on 21 July 1978.

MEXICO WILL CONTINUE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

PY091416Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] In the Foreign Ministry a letter has been received from Mexican Ambassador Plutarco Albarran Lopez, in which a desire was expressed to continue diplomatic relations. The Mexican ambassador's letter says: I agree with Your Excellency regarding the noble aim of maintaining the fraternal relations which have traditionally existed between our peoples and governments. It was also reported that the Peruvian, Hungarian and Turkish governments have sent congratulatory letters on the national holiday. Peruvian President Francisco Morales Bermudez stressed in his message to General Pereda that the commemoration of Bolivia's independence should serve to strengthen still more the close links of cooperation which have traditionally existed between the two countries.

SILES ZUAZO CHARGES MORE VIOLENCE IN YUNGAS

PY091331Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 8 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Hernan Siles Zuazo, leader of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP] held a press conference today during which he reported that the latest events in the Yungas region resulted in several dead, wounded and missing persons. Siles Zuazo stated that relatives of some persons had visited government house to report that several arbitrary arrests had taken place lately. He said that (Pedro Choque), (Tomas Ortiz) and (Ademar Tuma) had been arrested, that (Geronimo Meneses) (Nicolas) [name indistinct] were among the wounded, and added that some persons were missing. He demanded the release of those arrested by regular army troops and indicated that there were reports that several people had been killed. Siles Zuazo said that a lot of outrages were taking place in Yungas. The FUDP leader also reported that Gen Rene Quiroga and Julio Alem, the latter a prominent FUDP leader, had been placed under house arrest [residenciados] in Cochabamba without any apparent reason or justification. He indicated that the people will not tolerate this kind of abuse of power. Siles Zuazo announced new contacts with opposition parties in order to analyze the new national situation outlined by last Sunday's presidential speech. He emphasized that there is a chance of attaining unity within the opposition and that the foundations for this were being laid.

MDB EXECUTIVE BOARD CHOOSES NEW PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

FY091658Y Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 9 Aug 78 FY

[Text] The Brazilian Democratic Movement (MDB) supports the candidacy of Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro for president of the republic. This was the position taken this morning during the MDB Executive Board meeting in Brasilia.

The MDB board decided to call a national convention for 23 August when MDB participation in the presidential elections and the nomination of Gen Euler Bentes as candidate for president of republic will be ratified. The two decisions were made by the MDB leadership, and MDB-Rio Grande do Sul Deputy Getulio Dias was appaluded when he submitted the name of General Bentes.

General Bentes will need 305 votes at the convention to be officially approved. Getulio Dias believes that Gen Euler Bentes will defeat the government candidate, Joao Batista Figueiredo. MDB-Rio de Janeiro Deputy Walter Silva also expects a Bentes victory and pointed out the importance of the armed forces support that Bentes may give to the MDB.

General Bentes has officially expressed his acceptance, as reported today by MDB President Ulysses Guimaraes.

SENATORS PRAISE MAGALHAES DECISION TO WITHDRAW

FY090358Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 8 Aug 78 FY

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Text] As opposition leader, Senator Itamar Franco today read a letter sent by Senator Magalhaes Pinto to the MDB president, Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, in which Magalhaes expresses his decision not to run for the presidency on the MDB ticket. In his letter, Magalhaes states that he cannot become a divisive element within the opposition ranks, especially at this time when the MDB leadership is already trying to nominate its own candidate.

Senator Franco praised Magalhaes' laudable action in withdrawing his self-promoted candidacy. Franco outlined Magalhaes' long struggle for democracy since the Minas Gerais manifesto and emphasized that Magalhaes has earned (?the respect) of the Brazilian people.

Magalhaes' civic courage was also emphasized by MDB Senators Gilvan Rocha, Lazaro Barbosa, Dirceu Cardoso, Marcos Freire, Paulo Brossard, Mauro Benevides and Benjamin Farah.

MDB LEADER SAYS GEISEL SHOULD ACT AGAINST TORTURE

FY100213Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 9 Aug 78 FY

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Excerpts] The president himself should be the person most interested in investigating cases of troture, making it clear that he will not tolerate them and warning that these actions will not go unpunished. This statement was made today by Senator Paulo Brossard, leader of the Brazilian Democratic Movement in the Senate, in a speech to report on the case of a Sao Paulo lawyer who, although innocent, was kidnaped and tortured in Sao Paulo. Brossard based his report on the testimony of lawyer (Dario de Almeida Magalhaes). While MDB Senator Leite Chaves expressed his support for Brossard's remarks, Senator Jarbas Passarinho defended the position of the president, noting that police abuses unfortunately occur everywhere in the world and the highest government officials are often unaware of them.

EL MERCURIO ASSESSES RAMIFICATIONS OF LETELIER CASE

PY091521Y Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 6 Aug 78 First Section p 3 PY

["The Political Week" column]

[Text]

Indictment

The U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia submitted an indictment against those allegedly implicated in the murders of Mr Orlando Letelier and Ms Ronni Moffit, his U.S. companion.

This procedure, the request for preventive arrest and the appropriate extradition petition for the accused Chileans, does not come as a surprise to our country, since it comes at a time in which the full report about the case was released to the media simultaneously with publication of the news in the U.S. press.

Public knowledge of the case has been such that the "indictment," contrary to what was expected, does not contain any additional important facts which had not already been reported by the press. The charges are serious and conclusive, but as the proof which supports them is not known and the explanation of the events is very general, and while there has not yet been any opportunity to listen to the accused's versions, the document itself lacks the power of conviction, at least within the terms of our trial procedure for establishing the participation of Messrs Manuel Contreras, Pedro Espinoza and Armando Fernandez Larios in the attack.

Against all the evidence which could be damning is the fact that this crime was so enormous, senseless and bold, so foreign to our habits and so harmful to Chile's prestige, that it is difficult to believe that the "indictment's" charges belong to an event involving Chilean officers who have been accused.

In any case, we are in the presence of a police case, as has been said by Mr George Landau, U.S. ambassador to Chile.

The police case must be investigated and then judged by competent officials and the results of the trial will be obeyed by the Chilean Government and population, no matter what the consequences.

Our government has cooperated efficiently with the U.S. attorney's investigation and is now punctually complying with the committments it has contracted by virtue of the extradition treaty which it signed with the United States in 1902. The preventive arrest of the accused was based precisely on this treaty.

The request for the extradition of the accused must be decided by the Supreme Court president judge in the first instance and by a chamber of the same court as a court of second instance. The responsibility of the handing or not handing over of the accused is in the hands of our Supreme Court, which in addition can order that the accused be tried in Chile.

The government and the population of this country know that the only path in very difficult circumstances is that of devotion to the law. Within the law, but also taking into account the attack against Letelier in its proper moral legal and political dimensions, it will be possible to view this case in a realistic manner, a case which is being observed with special interest by U.S. and world public opinion.

I [illegible] the Case

Strictly speaking, the Letelier affair is a police and court case, but its characteristics and the high-ranking positions of those involved give it some political significance. This becomes even more obvious if we take into account that, for whatever reasons, some officials do not seem to cooperate toward the final clarification of the events or fail to realize the truly serious nature of this process.

The evidence on which the indictment is based is unknown, but the charges would not be so straightforward and categoric if the district attorney lacked strong convictions based on solid evidence, even though the text of the "indictment" ["indictment" in English] itself does not seem to provide sufficient grounds for such conviction.

It seems absolutely necessary to request and analyze the evidence which the North Americans apparently have available. They must be persuaded that the total clarification of the responsibilities for the crime interests Chile and Chileans as much as it does the United States and the people who live in Washington.

The president of the nation, from the very first, has ordered full cooperation with the investigation and is firmly determined to see law prevail in this difficult matter. His excellency is setting the course for the behavior of both officials and citizenry.

In turn, the public has been examining this case with increased interest and attention. It is a police case, but it does have significant political implications. It has foreign implications because the involvement of a general and former head of security services in a murder has indisputable significance. It has domestic implications because the citizenry has been unaware of what was happening inside the broad field of security service operations. The country has taken a wise step by entrusting the matter to professionals and experts on this subject, and their performance has led to public tranquillity. However, the Letelier affair is awakening doubts about the convenience of keeping the citizenry out of sensitive and serious matters which, in the final analysis, involve and endanger the entire country.

An Internal Political Matter

The strict implementation of the law, the active cooperation with the investigation carried out in Washington, the fulfillment of the treaty of Washington and the conduct of the courts give these preceedings their objective character, completely independent of the government and in accordance with norms and regulations which are not in the hands of the Chilean military regime to modify.

However, as we fear political exploitation against President Pinochet's government abroad, it is natural that we ourselves profoundly examine the mistakes made.

Concretely, the actions of the former National Intelligence Directorate [DINA] were subject to many doubts, suspicions and criticisms, but the citizenry was never able to seriously examine the bases for those negative attitudes since it was not allowed to know about the manner in which that organization was managed. Security reasons advised strict secrecy but now citizens' lack of knowledge about DINA and the increasing number of legends concerning it are damaging that organization, its members and the country, because we lack the background necessary to refute the accusations included in the "indictment."

The Letelier case represents only a moment in the country's long life, and no insoluble political situation should arise from that crime.

However, this cruel and painful experience should assure that important government activities never again--not even for national security reasons--are conducted completely without the knowledge of citizens. No one will ask the security services to disclose their secret activities, or to let their adversaries in on the game. However, it is unthinkable that something like the Letelier case should occur in Chile. This situation involves: A government which has the support of the people and which is leading the nation to unprecedented levels of development; a legal proceeding against officers of the army who served in DINA, a process in which the U.S. prosecutor is flinging very serious accusations at those Chileans; a citizenry which wishes to continue working in peace and which is ready to reject the allegations against these military officers. However, the lack of timely knowledge regarding DINA's true role, its true goals, and also its possible deviations, makes it difficult to confront libelous statements and erroneous presumptions. The organizations to which the accused belonged did not let themselves be appreciated and known as one more essential service of the government, secretive about its organization and operations, but integrated with the country and subject to citizen control with regard to its fundamental orientations.

Participation

The difficulties which the country is bearing as a result of the Letelier case indicate that the closed-door system of decisionmaking--that is, backroom politics--has reached a crisis point. Now more than ever we can appreciate the advantages of true citizen participation in public responsibilities, a contribution of opinions through the Council of State, legislative collaboration in the legislation committees, informative collaboration by the social communications media, and collaboration from unions and other grassroots social entities.

There is always time to mend our ways. The civilian cabinet could now become the most appropriate instrument for increasing citizen participation and collaboration. Right now, during these difficult days, our need for effective shared responsibility among Chileans in public life becomes greater than ever. Once the phase of more acute emergency is past there is no reason for the entire weight of the risks to fall on the armed forces or the president. It is about time that those who obtain moral and material benefits from our reconstruction, while they undertake commitments which affect the entire nation, inform us about matters of greater importance through means of public information.

Civilians and military have to learn that Chile does not belong to groups of individuals. This nation will endure more than just a few generations. The less individualistic a government's proposals are, the more its leaders encourage joint work toward the public cause, the better the chances of success for that political regime.

The police proceeding in the Letelier case is undoubtedly a political matter. The country has to confront it, absorb it, and bear all its consequences. History is made up of dark pages as well as brilliant pages. There are times when the shadows cast by the dark pages become almost the prerequisite and price of the brilliant ones. Right now we believe it is necessary to act clearly to insure that justice is respected. However, it would be unacceptable for reckless political manipulation of the situation to endanger the principles and values of the military revolt of 11 September.

KENNEDY, FOREIGN INTERVENTION FAULTED BY EL MERCURIO

PY092338Y Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 8 Aug 78 p 3 PY

[Editorial: "Groundless Attacks on Chile"]

[Text] Senator Kennedy has stated his intention of creating a movement to publicly put pressure on U.S. private banks which loan money to Chile because he believes that Chile "is continuously violating human rights."

With this in mind, he will submit a bill requesting that the name of these banks and the amounts of the loans to Chile be publicly known.

This new intervention by Senator Kennedy justifies the objective study made regarding the real scope of foreign intervention in the problems of human rights in Chile. It is worth recognizing that there are people genuinely interested in human rights in the world. It is also possible that foreign pressure, added to the solution of internal problems which broke the Chilean tradition on human rights, may have helped to restore normality.

Contrary to what is believed abroad, however, many of the effects of this intervention--due to their nature--have been negative. The campaign for human rights in Chile has suffered an unacceptable lack of seriousness. It should be recalled that there was international protest in the most responsible European newspapers when it was reported in October 1973 that Communist leader Corvalan had been shot. Neruda's death itself was attributed to the Chilean Government and serious articles were written regarding the alleged destruction, by order of the government, of the poet's library. No one can forget the story in the European press about the Mapocho River, red with blood and thousands of floating bodies. Senator Kennedy himself now speaks of 1,500 missing persons, while responsible estimates are half that amount. This manifested and repeated distortion of reality in Chile has had consequences which concerned parties would be well advised to study. Because of this, major sectors of men of good will in Chile have not been able to differentiate with all honesty between simple agitprop and valid accusations, which prevents them from taking positions which might help prevent some excesses.

Also, pressure against Chile has the essential idea of "punishing the guilty." It is possible that the modern psychological theory that pure punishment is ineffective and that the policy of "reinforcing good habits" is effective as a means to improve human behavior can also be applied to governments and that world recognition of Chile's progress in human rights would do more to speed up progress than sanctions. It is obvious that foreign pressure, as it has been applied, has polarized Chilean public opinion and at times has contributed to solidifying internal support for the government. The country cannot forget that many of these measures have damaged not only the current government but also the permanent interests of the nation.

In conclusion, in order for foreign influence to have the desired effect it must be based on the solid moral, personal and political authority of those exercising it. In this regard, it is hoped that those who now fervently support democracy in Chile had helped in the past to defend what they are supporting. Senator Kennedy certainly was not one of those who raised their voices to defend democracy at the time of Popular Unity, when the foundation of democracy was crumbling. Many of his Chilean colleagues are now those who for 30 years verbally attacked democracy because they considered it bourgeois and formal, and during Popular Unity, putting words into action, institutionalized violence and armed revolution as an acceptable rule of the game.

This is why it is important that people around the world who are really interested in seeing Chile return to normal act with responsibility, not only criticizing but also encouraging and refusing to be used as instruments by people who want to implant in Chile a system basically distant from the Western European democratic principles they defend.

EXILED SOCIALIST LEADER INTERVIEWED BY LE MONDE

LD091527Y Paris LE MONDE in French 9 Aug 78 p 3 LD

[Jean-Pierre Clerc report on undated interview in Paris with exiled Socialist Party (PS) Secretary General Carlos Altamirano: "General Pinochet Is the Fundamental Obstacle to Any Return to Democracy"]

[Excerpt] According to Carlos Altamirano, the "Letelier affair" is "the greatest disgrace of a government in Chile's entire history. For a president of the republic in our country to be personally suspected of murder is without precedent. But for us it has the value of a precedent: Henceforth, no one can object to Chile's criminals being prosecuted when the time comes."

The recent dismissal of General Leigh prompted Carlos Altamirano to the following reflections: "Pinochet has won this round. It is the weaker fascist, Leigh, who has lost. The stronger has further reinforced his personal power as caudillo. And the stronger is the one who has the unconditional support of the Chilean monopolies and U.S. multinational interests. This episode is also a temporary setback for President Carter."

[Question] What is the state of relations between the left and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC]?

[Answer] We are urging the PDC that a political agreement must be signed to coordinate the actions of all Chilean democratic forces against Pinochet. The PDC must realize more clearly than it did in the past that Pinochet is the fundamental obstacle to any return to democracy. The positions recently adopted by [former PDC President] Eduardo Frei are positive in our view. [answer ends]

Chilean refugee circles close to Popular Unity consider that the great Chilean centrist party will never agree to form this vast "antifascist front" with the left, of which the Popular Unity coalition dreams, if only because it is not entirely convinced that the military junta is fascist. Moreover, it is keen to preserve its image as a middle-of-the-road independent force. Thus, whenever the regime is losing ground it breaks off the dialog which it opens when the regime appears more vigorous. But the left appreciates recent statements by Eduardo Frei, who apparently now takes the view that an understanding must be reached with the "whole" of the PS--and that there must be no more attempts to divide the Popular Unity coalition--and who rejects any kind of regime "under military tutelage."

Social Democratic Pressures

The PS secretary general issues a fundamental reproach against General Pinochet these days: that of "jeopardizing very seriously, perhaps irreparably, the country's security and sovereignty. Chile has never been as internationally isolated and as internally divided as it has been since 1973. Argentina, for example, knows full well that any other Chilean Government would refuse to accept the demands which the present government is accepting.

This is an allusion to the quarrel over the Beagle Channel, in which an international arbitrator upheld Santiago's claim to three tiny islands in the extreme South of the continent--a claim which Buenos Aires has refused to recognize.

[illegible] noted that all the Latin American governments, without exception, plus [illegible], have now declared in favor of Bolivia's demand for access to the sea across territories which the Chileans have looked upon as theirs ever since they conquered them last century during the "War of the Pacific."

Is there a "European social democratic plan for Latin America?" we next asked the Chilean PS secretary.

He observed that the German SPD [Socialist Party] is very active in most parts of the subcontinent, distributing grants to trade unionists and trips to personalities through the Friedrich-Herbert Foundation, setting up schools for cadres and promoting the activities of parties considered close to social democracy. "The SPD is the only party in the Socialist International which has an international policy." It is a very effective vehicle for German interests all over the world, particularly in Africa and Latin America. In Chile itself, "domestic and international forces are putting on the pressure to provoke a social democratic-type schism within the PS, creating a German-style party which would reach agreement with the PDC excluding Popular Unity." Such a force would obviously aim not for social change but for the maintenance of the present capitalist structures in the main.

Mr Altamirano does not believe that it can be argued quite simply, as the left often does, that German social democracy is a mere "extension of U.S. imperialism." He believes that the interests of Bonn and Washington can differ widely, as we saw in the case of the nuclear agreement signed in 1975 between the FRG and Brazil, which the United States, anxious to prevent nuclear proliferation, especially in Latin America, was unable to cancel despite strong pressure on both its allies. Moreover, it seems to him that the German social democrats are keener on a return to democracy in Latin America than the majority of U.S. democrats, perhaps because Germany is less directly involved in the subcontinent than the United States.

In conclusion, we asked Mr Altamirano what his overall assessment is of President Carter's policy toward Latin America.

[Answer] "Just like the Alliance for Progress drawn up in 1961 by President Kennedy, President Carter's human rights policy probably has a sincere moral basis. However, I note that is is less rigorous since it is not aimed at any structural changes. Yet observance of human rights in Latin America involves such changes: The ruling classes have set up dictatorships to preserve economic and social structures which work to their advantage.

"Among the military regime countries which, under pressure from the United States, have sought to legitimize themselves through universal suffrage over the past few weeks, the process has failed (in Bolivia) or will fail if the most leftwing candidate wins (in Ecuador). In the medium term, Latin America will remain prey to highly authoritarian and repressive regimes," the Chilean PS secretary general concluded.

POLITICAL LEADERS FEAR INTENT OF VOTE ANNULMENTS

PA082012Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 8 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Ecuadorean political leaders consider that the annulments in the presidential elections declared last night by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal are the beginning of a destabilization process.

The tribunal has so far annulled 12 percent of the electoral returns of some 800 precincts which it has tallied. It even decreed the annulment of all the electoral returns in Cotopaxi Province and almost half in Esmeralda Province. This last province includes an important number of voters. Because of irregularities during the 3 weeks of official tallying of the 16 July elections, which will return Ecuador to a de jure system, the tribunal has tallied only 260,000 votes, equivalent to 12 percent of the total. This has caused several politicians to believe that at the end of the tally there will be more annulments than valid votes. Manuel Araujo Hidalgo, who supports Raul Clemente Huerta's Liberal candidacy, said that the process of electoral destabilization could endanger the plan to restore the country to democracy carried out by the military government over the past 2 years. Araujo favors reform of the electoral law, which is to a great extent blamed for the annulments, and a reconsideration of the affected votes.

[Begin Araujo recording] We are facing an electoral destabilization maneuver. What the country is experiencing at this moment is an electoral destabilization process. There is an extremely high rate of annulments of votes in several provinces, such as Esmeralda, Imbavura and Manabi, not counting the annulment of the returns from Cotopaxi Province. This makes us believe that the country is at this time confronting an electoral destabilization process which can endanger the process of democratic and constitutional restoration in the country. [end recording]

Julio Cesar Trujillo of Popular Democracy, which supports populist candidate Jaime Roldos, winner of the first round of the 16 July elections, agrees that there is a risk of endangering the democratic restoration in the country. He proposed that the tribunal tally Guayas Province, where 26 percent of the Ecuadorean voters live. Guayas contributed greatly to Roldos' triumph, but unconfirmed rumors say that there are serious irregularities which could lead to total annulment of the province's votes.

[Begin Trujillo recording] I think that this is not the case, although there are persons interested in creating what Dr Araujo Hidalgo called destabilization of the electoral process. I would say that it is rather a destabilization of the democratic restoration process. There are some at this time who would create confusion and chaos and increase the rate of annulments to an extent where the people in the country would be scandalized. These people not only want to rob the people of their victory but would also like to explore the possibility of suspending the Constitution which has been already approved [words indistinct] for the Ecuadorean people. In this way these groups would gain two advantages: They would suspend the progressive Constitution and keep progressive men from assuming power. [end recording]

CP URGES MEMBERS TO VOID VOTES IN ELECTION RUNOFF

PA100135Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2351 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 9 Aug (AFP)--The Communist Party of Ecuador (PCE) today urged its members to void their votes in the runoff elections for president.

According to the unofficial results, Populist Jaime Roldos was the winner in the first round of the elections held on 16 July.

He was followed by Conservative Sixto Duran Ballen.

In a lengthy communique published by the PCE organ PUEBLO, the party states that "none of the candidates who are going to participate or might participate in the runoff election have a program that guarantees the basic reforms that the people demand." Liberal candidate Raul Clemente Huerta, who came in third, according to unofficial results, hopes that he will come in second in the official count being conducted by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal. The PCE forms part of the Leftwing Broad Front which had nominated Communist Rene Mauge as its candidate in the first round of the elections. According to unofficial results, Mauge obtained [passage indistinct].

AZTRA SUGAR MILL WORKERS DECLARE INDEFINITE STRIKE

PA082020Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1931 GMT 8 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 8 Aug (AFP)--It was learned from a labor union source that the 2,000 workers of the AZTRA sugar mill, where bloody confrontations with the police occurred last October, today declared a strike for an indefinite period. The workers are demanding that the authorities recognize their union representatives. They say they will remain on strike until this demand is met.

The Confederation of Ecuadorean Workers (CTE), which is dominated by the Communist Party, today published a communique supporting the sugar mill workers, urging its members to remain alert to forestall "a new massacre of workers." The CTE accused the Labor Ministry of supporting another labor organization which has "sold out" to management in order to win approval of a new collective contract that is favorable to management's interests.

Ministry Denies Responsibility

PA092207Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] The Labor and Social Welfare Ministry has denied any responsibility in connection with the dispute at the AZTRA sugarmill because it is not a labor problem but just a rift among the mill's labor leaders. This is what Labor Minister Jorge Salvador Chiriboga told [illegible]. [begin recording] This is not a labor problem. A labor problem exists when [illegible] list of demands and goals of the workers or complaints of the workers regarding violation of their rights by the [word indistinct]. What exists there is a fight among the leaders for certain positions. [end recording]

NATIONAL CIVIC JUNTA ENDORSES RAUL CLEMENTE HUERTA

PA102149Y Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 1 Aug 78 p 3 PA

[From the "Actualidad Politica" column]

[Text] The directors of the National Civic Junta, representing the parties and political groups which compose it, have resolved in a plenary meeting:

1. To reaffirm their support and endorsement of Raul Clemente Huerta, candidate of the National Democratic Union, expressing the firm and loyal determination of accompanying him in the definitive battle which true Ecuadorean democracy will wage against native totalitarianism.

2. To repudiate, now and always, reported efforts to transfer power to certain civilian elements who would set up a puppet government and, at the same time, to reject any new military adventure, both alternatives or maneuvers being directed toward the common objective of perpetuating dictatorship.

DOMINGO LAINO INTERVIEWED AFTER RELEASE FROM PRISON

PY100326Y Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 9 Aug 78 P 6 PY

[Excerpts] Although Dr Domingo Laino made a formal promise yesterday that today he would release details of his conversation yesterday with Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro, the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] official told reporters he was sorry, but this question will be explained through a document to be released by the PLRA tonight.

In answer to a question from the press about his activities now that he is free, Laino answered: "I have immediately joined my party, the PLRA, to fight from within it and from my post as first vice president, and also to follow the work--which is quite advanced--aimed at reaching a national unity of the Febrerist Revolutionary Party, the Christian Democratic Party, the Authentic Radical Liberal Party and sectors of the dissident Colorado Party."

Asked if he intends to travel abroad, Laino answered that from the very beginning he had thought of resuming political activities within the country, and "in addition, the investigations police have not yet given me back my passport so that even willing, I won't be able to leave the country."

Another reporter asked Laino if "his conversation with the interior minister evolved around politics, him personally, some warning, the national situation or the government?"

Laino answered: "Well, we discussed several subjects, both national and international, but as I said before, the PLRA in due time--very soon, I believe--will release a statement in this regard. This decision was made last night by the political committee in view of the importance of the subjects discussed with Minister Montanaro."

Finally, Laino categorically denied that he had made offensive remarks about the newspaper HOY, as reported by that newspaper itself.

Attorneys Discuss Case

PY091847Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 9 Aug 78 p 8 PY

[Text] Miguel Abdon Saguier and Juan Manuel Benitez Florentin, two of the lawyers handling the legal procedures in the Domingo Laino case, were questioned yesterday after the disclosure of the court order freeing their client. Miguel Abdon Saguier said: "The Laino case was basically a political one. The party director believed this, and so did Laino.

"It is widely believed that the procedure was one of political persecution and we, the lawyers, were in constant contact with the leaders and with Laino, and acted accordingly.

"The public was informed of the details of the proceedings, and they witnessed the arbitrary actions starting from the very moment of his arrest and continuing with the treatment he received at the police investigations department. This treatment was outrageous and humiliating. Contrary to what the government was seeking, it only further convinced all Authentic Radical opponents that our political ideals will soon come to pass.

"The release of Laino is a success for the democratic groups which are basically united to the national agreement made up of the Febrerista Revolutionary Party, the Christian Democratic Party and the Authentic Radical Liberal Party. There is also a very good chance that the Popular Colorado Movement [MOPOCO] will soon join this democratic association." "We, the lawyers, are party members above everything else, and that is basically why we are so moved by Laino's courageous stand."

Juan Manuel Benitez Florentin stated: "I can only add that this renewed proceeding in which Laino is involved is an action which places the government in confrontation with national and international public opinion.

"The Paraguayan foreign minister has stated that the resolutions of the Organization of American States with respect to the human rights situation were 'acceptable'. Nonetheless, the government continues to maintain the state of siege and persists in implementing unconstitutional and antidemocratic laws such as number 294 and 209. It is precisely this attitude which led to the resolution of the last OAS assembly."

RADICAL LIBERALS DENOUNCE PRACTICES AT EMBOSCADA PRISON

PY091831Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 9 Aug 78 p 8 PY

[Text] The Executive Board of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party issued a communique yesterday reporting to the Paraguayan citizenry "the painful situation of political prisoners imprisoned in Emboscada Penitentiary. Most of these prisoners are held without trial and experience mistreatment."

The communique went on to add that "in spite of repeated promises made to these political prisoners that they will be released very soon, about 20 of them are crowded in small cells in Emboscada Penitentiary, virtually without sanitary facilities or food, because almost all indispensible services and facilities have been torn down with the promise that the penitentiary will be closed and the prisoners released.

"Among the inmates of this military penitentiary are the following citizens: Alberto Alegre, Juan Balbuena, Carlos Branas, Otto Hunter, Sixto Fleitas, Miguel A. Sanabria, Sotero Franco, Epifanio Osorio, Olegario Rodriguez, Nercio Stumpfs, Taurin Portillo, Regino Ybarra, Gumersindo Britez, Domingo Rolon, Santiago Rolon, Melchor Rolon, Eduardo Bogado, Jose Gill Ojeda and others. Several other prisoners have been taken to police quarters and nothing has been known about them since. Such is the case of Ceisa Ramirez, who was taken ill to the police hospital together with her 2-year-old son and whom no one has been able to contact since."

DIFFERENCES EXPRESSED ON USE OF ITAIPU ELECTRICITY

PY092343Y Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 9 Aug 78 p 11 PY

[Text] Following the inauguration of a leather tannery in San Lorenzo yesterday afternoon, the press talked with Industry and Commerce Minister Delfin Ugarte Centurion on the subject of selling Paraguay's share of Itaipu-generated electricity to Brazil or consuming it in our country. The minister reiterated his position that exporting finished goods is better than exporting unused energy.

Some days ago [Itaipu Deputy President] Enzo Debernardi told leaders of the Production Industry and Commerce Federation and the Paraguayan Industrial Union in Itaipu that he does not consider the establishment of the Reynolds Metal Company in our country advisable because it would consume more than a 1 million kilowatts and employ no more than 1,000 people.

Debernardi asked whether there would be any advantage in the installation of factories consuming high quantities of energy to employ a few workers, and expressed doubt as to whether the amount of taxes paid would be significant. He said it would be plain madness to sell an amount of energy equivalent to 5 or 6 times the output of the Acaray hydroelectric plant at a low price to a single company. He stressed that it would be better to sell that electricity to Brazil because the sale would bring in $150 million a year without any added obligation, and this could be used to finance the development of agriculture, industry and other sectors in our country.

Debernardi also said that in his opinion there are advantages to promoting the country's agricultural and industrial development utilizing means available within the country. He pointed out that the high electricity-consuming industries would have to import material not available in the country and request custom duties exemption to do so.

Asked about Debernardi's opinion, Minister Centurion said: "I believe that Paraguay should not just write itself off as a large consumer of its energy share in Itaipu (about 6 million kw), which it would be able to use by bringing in high energy-consuming industries.

He added: "Otherwise, we will have to wait many years until we are able to use our share in Itaipu. I believe we ought to think this way: What is more advantageous, selling unused energy or value-added products? I am inclined to believe that the latter is more advantageous. Of course, we are not yet in a position to lay down concrete plans, because many of those industrial undertakings are based on the cost of electricity, and we will not know that cost until we know the final cost of Itaipu. A project like Reynolds, for instance, requires years for implementation and I think we will be in a position to determine that rate a few years ahead of the project's completion. I must point out that the U.S. company would invest $700 million in our country."

Regarding Debernardi's idea that a work group ought to be created with the participation of technical and economic experts in the public and private sectors to draw up a national strategy for energy consumption, Minister Centurion said yesterday that the technical cooperation of the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has been asked to study the possibility of installing high electricity-consuming industries in Paraguay. Once this study is completed, the government will have the basis for a national policy on this question, he said.

DEMONSTRATORS SEEK NEW ELECTIONS IN SAN MIGUELITO

PA091927Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] A large group of residents of the special San Miguelito Corregimiento, who are demanding that elections there for representative be held again, staged several demonstrations this morning which required the presence of police. The demonstrators congregated at the important intersections of Via Bolivar and Richardo Joaquin Alfaro and Domingo Diaz avenues, and interrupted the normal flow of traffic at peak hours.

San Miguelito garrison chief Captain Sieiro and a high-level commissioner asked the demonstrators to withdraw. But their spokesmen demanded that General Torrijos and officials of the electoral tribunal go there. After prompt police action the group was dispersed but assembled again at the entrance to Paraiso, where the police again dispersed the crowd. Belisario Frias, a well-known leader; Alfonso Montoya, a former candidate for corregimiento representative; and several other demonstrators were arrested.

Authorities had asked the group to address themselves, through regular channels, to the electoral tribunal where complaints, suits and impugnations should be filed.

In San Miguelito, three of the five victorious candidates--Dimas Ali Nunez of Belisario Porras District, Feliciano Grajales of Victoriano Lorenzo District and Nicolas Barrios of Amelia Dennis de Icaza District--have been officially challenged. In this respect, the situation in the electoral tribunal was the same as yesterday. Only the challenges which have been mentioned here have been presented formally. It was explained that it is not enough to state the intention to challenge a person but that a formal challenge must be made as prescribed by the procedures of the electoral law.

After the demonstration was dispersed many demonstrators threw rocks at the National Guardsmen, which led the Guard to comb the area.

ELECTORAL CHALLENGES THUS FAR NUMBER ABOUT 70

PA100221Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] A group of demonstrators peacefully assembled in front of the electoral tribunal offices and protested the voting in Las Cumbres Corregimiento. Fifty persons carrying signs expressed support for the challenge brought against candidate Ernesto Cordoba who, according to unofficial figures, was reelected as corregimiento representative. There have been similar efforts in the past 72 hours, demanding that the electoral tribunal issue a final statement regarding electoral irregularities which, according to the demonstrators, were evidenced in numerous polling places.

Groups of demonstrators from the districts of Panama as well as San Miguelito and other parts of the country have accompanied their candidates to present their challenges as prescribed by the electoral law. Up to this afternoon the tribunal had received approximately 70 challenges from different parts of the country. The challenges will be studied by all of the magistrates. Meanwhile, the final returns of Sunday's election are in the last stage of processing and a definite statement by the country's electoral authorities is expected in the next few hours.

EL SALVADOR

SECURITY FORCES PREVENT TEACHERS DEMONSTRATION

PA092001Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1720 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Security forces prevented a massive educators mobilization from taking place today. Military contingents and security force agents started patrolling the entrances to San Salvador as well as public offices, diplomatic offices and private businesses early this morning, in order to prevent the massive teachers demonstration which was scheduled to take place in protest against the 18 July raid on the educators center in San Salvador, in which subversive propaganda was found and about 20 persons arrested. The demonstrating educators were also going to demand that the Education Ministry approve a list of their petitions. Airplanes and helicopters were also used in the patrols to prevent outbreaks of violence.

Until noon today no violence was registered in San Salvador or the countryside. Radio stations and studios are also being protected. Despite heavy police vigilance activities in San Salvador and the interior are continuing as usual. Transportation is operating normally except for traffic jams, which are the result of the fact that some streets around public offices, diplomatic legations, radio stations and newspapers have been closed off. No arrests have been made.

HONDURAS

JUNTA RETAINS SEVEN MINISTERS, REPLACES SIX

PA091304Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1043 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 9 August (AFP)--The governing military junta announced last night that seven ministers of the cabinet of former President Juan Alberto Melgar Castro have been confirmed in their posts. Military spokesmen said that the junta confirmed those ministers who did not describe their resignations as irrevocable.

The ministers who will remain in their posts are Benjamin Villanueva, minister of economy; Roberto Palma Galvez, minister of foreign affairs; Rafael Leonardo Callejas, minister of natural resources; Mario Flores Theresin, minister of communications, public words and transport; Fabio Salgado, executive director of the National Agrarian Institute; Porfirio Zavala, minister of finance and public credit; and Adalberto Discua, minister of labor and social security.

It was also learned that the new members incorporated into the cabinet are Cristobal Diaz, minister of government and justice; Diego Landa Delano, minister of defense and public security; Luis Coussin, minister of public health and social service; Valentin Mendoza, executive secretary of the Higher Economic Planning Council; Eugenio Matute Canisales, minister of public education; and Armando Alvarez, minister of culture, tourism and information. Executives of autonomous and semiautonomous organizations are yet to be appoined. The appointments may be made in the next few hours.

TWO NEWSMEN APPOINTED GOVERNMENT ADVISERS

PA092250Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1514 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Two well-known radio commentators will assist the new Honduran governing military junta in the press and legal departments, the Superior Council of the Armed Forces has announced. One of them is Gustavo Acosta Mejia, a lawyer and newsman, who early this morning assumed the post of general adviser to the triumvirate headed by Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia.

Acosta Mejia replaced Cesar Batres, former foreign affairs minister and at present the main Honduran negotiator in the Honduran-Salvadoran conflict. In the government of Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro he held the powerful post of government adviser. Acosta Mejia, for more than three decades a commentator on one of the most important radio stations in this capital, apparently is going to perform the same duties as his predecessor.

The other adviser to the triumvirate is German Allan Padget, also a veteran radio commentator, who was appointed press secretary and given the important duties of minister without portfolio, to advise the triumvirate on matters pertaining to the press department. The triumvirate Monday night accepted the "resignation" of Melgar Castro, who had assumed power on 22 April 1975 through the decision of the Superior Council of the Armed Forces, after overthrowing Gen Oswaldo Lopez Arellano, who seized power in 1972.

NEW GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED BY MOST COUNTRIES

PA091453Y Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Gustavo Acosta Mejia, a commentator at this station, met with the military government junta for several hours. The junta ratified the military government's intention of holding free and honest elections in the country.

Panama's strongman, Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera, has sent a message to the military government junta ratifying the good relations that should exist between these two countries. Meanwhile, most of the countries with which Honduras maintains relations have been recognizing the military government junta since the military government has continued with only a change in the regime's leadership.

PNH DECLARATION SUPPORTS NEW GOVERNMENT

PA091942Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0238 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 8 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The Central Committee of the National Party of Honduras [PNH] issued a statement this afternoon, Tuesday, supporting the new military regime which last night accepted the "resignation" of chief of state Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro.

The communique issued by the National Party, one of the country's two traditional parties, emphasizes the party's approval of measures which the new regime has promised to implement in line with the armed forces proclamation of 22 April 1975, the date on which Melgar Castro came to power.

The PNH members reiterated their confidence that all the promises made by the triumvirate will be fully fulfilled. Consequently, they deem wise the new military junta's policy of strictly respecting international agreements and continuing peace negotiations with El Salvador.

The PNH also identifies with the goals of the agrarian reform process, a process which will continue to be the key priority of the armed forces. The PNH states that with the installation of the new military junta it is now a good time to overcome all the difficulties which have occurred in the nation so far in order to accelerate the return to a democratic regime. The PNH declaration is the first to be made by a Honduran organization in support of the triumvirate, which is headed by Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, commander of the armed forces.

NICARAGUA

SOMOZA REPORTED ON TRIP TO UNITED STATES

PA091756Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza is in the United States, it was learned today, Wednesday, in this capital. According to the local news media, Somoza left on Tuesday aboard the presidential plane "Nicarao." The reasons for the president's trip have not yet been given. He has made trips regularly to the United States in the last few months.

Somoza has congressional permission to leave the country for 3 months and still retain his presidential functions. Government Minister Antonio Mora is left in charge of administrative matters and Gen Jose R. Somoza, a brother of the president, becomes acting chief of the National Guard when Somoza leaves.

POLITICAL, INDUSTRIAL GROUPS BACK ARCHBISHOP'S REQUEST

PA092229Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1756 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN), belonging to the "Broad Opposition Front" (FAO), has announced its full support for the message by Managua Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo and his clergy, suggesting the voluntary resignation of President Anastasio Somoza.

The message, issued last weekend, said that the "sacrifice of the chief of state" would permit the formation of an authentic national government to solve the serious political and economic crisis affecting Nicaragua. "We support the urgency of their pronouncement in view of the national crisis," said the newest of the opposition political groups, which represents the more active private sector. The MDN maintains that "the definite withdrawal of Gen Anastasio Somoza would have to include his separation from the National Guard and the removal of his son, Maj Anastasio Somoza Portocarrera, and his brother, Maj Gen Jose R. Somoza."

The announcement, published today, adds: "Only thus will the transition government be able to recover the people's trust while the National Guard will be relieved of the personalistic and disturbing influence of the Somoza family."

The MDN's most prominent leader, Alfonso Robelo Callejas, expanded upon the document by stating that the national government should include the various political groups of the country, from the extreme leftwing, represented by the Sandinist National Liberation Front, to the most honest members of the ruling Nationalist Liberal Party.

"In order to have lasting popular support and permanent peace in the country the Nicaraguan people must demand several sociopolitical structural changes, because as long as injustices prevail there will be reason for social struggle," Robelo Callejas added.

Meanwhile, the Nicaraguan Chamber of Industries (CADIN) council of directors announced its support for the Christian, conciliatory and patriotic spirit of the recent pastoral message, and called for an end to "intransigent and selfish attitudes, and for the eradication of hatred and revenge, on behalf of national concord." The businessmen urged "the courageous support of peaceful actions that will lead to the required political and social evolution through patriotic and legal means, so that freedom, peace and justice will prevail in Nicaragua within the framework of a system of democracy and free enterprise."

Newsmen Support Archbishop

PA092232Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2042 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The Union of Journalists of Nicaragua (UPN) agreed, during a recent meeting, to support the message by Managua's Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo proposing President Anastasio Somoza's resignation and the creation of a government to find peaceful solutions to the country's existing crisis. "We support the praiseworthy proposals of our archbishop and his council of clergy, presented in his special message last week. We also offer our information services in order to bring about the peace and democratization which our people have desired for such a long time," the UPN said.

Replying to a systematic government campaign blaming independent newsmen for the climate of unrest and violence in Nicaragua, the UPN again stressed its professionalism and its "duty to fulfill the need of keeping the people properly informed." "We did not create the government's financial crisis, the new tax before Congress awaiting approval, or the rejection of these taxes by commerce, industry and labor. Neither did we invent the president's illness, the sad and regrettable events at Jinotepe, San Marcos, Matagalpa, Catarina, Monimbo, the Continental Hotel and the many other places in which noble Nicaraguan blood has been shed."

The UPN newsmen, meeting with radio owners and directors, agreed to close ranks "before the new threats planned by the government to repress free information still more. The UPN also agreed to defend freedom of expression and their profession, both of which demand a daily demonstration of responsibility, courage and unity in the face of totalitarian attack."

LIBERAL PARTY CRITICIZES CHURCH CALL FOR SOMOZA'S OUSTER

PA100400Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0245 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 9 Aug (AFP)--It was learned that the ruling Liberal Party today sharply criticized Archbishop Miguel Obando, head of the Nicaraguan Church, for seeking President Anastasio Somoza's resignation. Commenting on Monsignor Obando's remarks a few days ago, a party spokesman stated that "political reasoning resides with the people and not in the pulpit." The prelate had said that Somoza should leave the presidency "so that the political crisis which the country has been experiencing for the past seven months can be solved."

For his part, Somoza decided to go to the United States for personal reasons early this week. This trip has been interpreted by several political circles as proof that "he does not feel pressured."

By way of refuting that statement, disturbances continued in the country: Two soldiers dressed in plain clothes were injured when they were shot at as they passed through the town of Chinandega, 120 km west of Managua, and a bomb was set off at a discotheque in this capital, without resulting in any casualties.

Some leaflets distributed here and apparently published by a self-styled "proletarian faction of the Sandinist Liberation Front" accused the government of creating a "climate of military overthrow" in order to "escape the grave political crisis and smash the opposition.

STUDENTS OCCUPY UN, WHO, OAS OFFICES

PA081942Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0106 GMT 8 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 7 Aug (LATIN)--Student groups belonging to the Secondary Student Movement (Movimiento Estudiantil Secundaria--MES) today occupied the local offices of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the Organization of American States.

Although they issued no written statement they said that they want to pressure "the Nicaraguan Government to put an end to repression and release a large number of students who are in several of the country's prisons."

They also said that they are trying to get the government to refrain from endorsing a series of taxes at present being discussed in the Nicaraguan Congress which, they claimed, were proposed by international organizations such as the International Monetary Fund. The students are also asking for better treatment of political prisoners.

The six students who occupied the UN offices--four men and two women--told LATIN that they are planning to stay 3 days. They added that if their efforts do not meet with success during this time, "occupation would be indefinite." Those occupying the WHO and OAS offices said the same thing.

For his part, Roberto MacEachen, a Uruguayan who is in charge of the UN office in Managua, said the occupation was peaceful and that his office follows the UN policy of "absolute impartiality." He added that he had informed the New York headquarters and the Nicaraguan Government through the Foreign Ministry of the occupation.

BRIEFS

TRADE BALANCE DEFICIT--Tegucigalpa, 6 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The office of the secretary of state for economy has issued a communique noting that the Honduran trade balance with other Central American countries shows a deficit of approximately 16 million lempiras [$8 million] annually. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1824 GMT 6 Aug 78 PA]

LOAN FOR FISHING DEVELOPMENT--The Central American Economic Integration Bank [BCIE] has granted a loan of 5 million colones to Multipesca, S.A., to promote the exploitation of Salvadoran marine resources, especially crawfish. BCIE officials said this will be a pioneer project in Central America aimed at training personnel and developing techniques in this field. [San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 26 Jul 78 p 3 PA]

VIEWS ON SOCIALIST-NONALINED ISSUE DEFENDED

P1090433Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Aug 78 PA

[Station commentary]

[Text] The final result of the recent meeting of ministers of the nonalined countries held in Belgrade was a significant defeat for the divisionist campaign promoted by the United States, China and other countries against the movement. The direct attempt by reactionary regimes such as Egypt, Zaire and Somalia to prevent confirmation of Cuba as the site of the sixth summit meeting of nonalined countries was resoundingly defeated.

In their attempt the representatives of those governments charged that Cuba intervened in Africa and was dependent on the Soviet Union. However, the meeting of foreign ministers ratified the principles that have always governed the nonalined countries and reiterated its praise for Cuba and other countries that helped the people of Angola to thwart South African aggression.

The final declaration adopted by the foreign ministers of member countries shows once more the anti-imperialist, anticolonialist, antineocolonialist and antiracist origins of the nonalined movement. In this regard, the Belgrade declaration says that the main characteristic of the present international situation is the struggle for the full political and economic independence of the peoples and countries which are resolutely working for independent development and against any kind of exploitation and dependency.

Moreover, when a country which claims to be nonalined tries to attack Cuba's policy of solidarity with the peoples of Africa, it forgets in the first place that one of the principles reiterated by the movement at its meetings has been for member countries to help other nonalined member countries whose sovereignty and territorial integrity are threatened. Consequently, we have helped the legitimate governments of Angola and Ethiopia when they requested Cuban troops to face South African and Somali aggression against their respective territories.

Another point raised in trying to divide the nonalined is the existing ties between Cuba and the Soviet Union. Regarding this, it is necessary to refer to Fidel Castro's speech at the fourth summit meeting in Algiers. He denounced the worrisome trend of trying to counterpose the nonalined countries and the socialist countries and summarily rejected the false theory of the two imperialisms. In his speech, Fidel proved that which cannot be refuted, that is, that which had been proclaimed in different ways by the founders of the movement, Tito, Nehru, Nasser and Nkrumah: the tie between the October Revolution and the end of colonialism.

More recently, during a press conference in Belgrade, the vice president of the Council of State of Cuba, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, stated that no one could demand that a nonalined country subscribe to socialist theories, defend them or even show preference for the foreign policy of socialist countries. But it is a fact, he stressed, that while the nonalined can at the same time be socialist, such as Yugoslavia and Cuba have been from the beginning of the movement and such as Vietnam, Korea and many recently incorporated countries, no imperialist country or one which supports or approves of imperialist policy, repeatedly condemned by all meetings of the organization, could belong to this movement.

Cuba does not try to have its criteria shared by others. However, decisive forces within the nonalined movement share our view that, instead of being enemies of the objectives of the movement, the socialist countries, because of the nature of their system and policy, are natural allies in the struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism, apartheid, racism and Zionism.

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